(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to make allotments to the genuine applicants?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Ex-gratia payment to Harijans

@4375. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines for the *ex-gratia* payment to Harijans in case of their murder;

(b) if so, whether these are uniformally followed by all the States;

(c) whether it is a fact that recently a poor Harijan was killed in Chinamadharam village of Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon and whether the *ex-gratia* has been paid to the next of the kin of the victim?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Guidelines have been issued to States/Union Territories to arrange for proper and prompt relief and rehabilitation of the scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes affected by the atrocities *vide* Union Home Minister's d.o. letters dated 10th March, 1980 and 2nd November, 1981.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

@Previously Unstarred Question 3110, transferred from the 18th March, 1992.

Pesticides poisoning

@@4375-A. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTRUE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent Pesticide poisoning case reported from Sanjay Amar Colony of Old Delhi, if so, details of the pesticide consumed, name of the manufacturer and number of people killed and maimed;

(b) whether Government have apprehended the trader of this poison; and whether any compensation had been paid to the victims families; and

(c) what steps are being taken to prevent similar tragedies in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The following factual position is given based on the information received from the Delhi Administration:

(i) Of the 7 persons who were affected due to suspected phosphine gas poisoning, 4 persons died and 3 survive.

(ii) The report from Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL), Lodi Road, New Delhi, on the possible cause of poisoning/death is awaited.

(iii) No evidence is available with the Police regarding details of trade name of pesticides used, name of the manufacturer and the source of purchase.

(c) The Government has taken several steps to ensure that pesticides are safely handled and used. Some of the major steps taken are given below:

(i) The label and leaflets which invariably accompany the pesticide container give directions on the usage, safety measures to be observed first-aid measures and antidotes to be used in case of accidental poisoning.

@@Previously Unstarred Question 3562, transferred from the 25th March, 1992.